THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

CORRECTION.

In the report of County Council for West Chester and Putnam counties, N. Y., which appeared in the last number of BULLETIN, the following names of delegates were omitted. We take pleasure in completing the report by noticing them here.

Delegation from Dobbs Ferry, Mrs. Ackerman, Miss Hotchkiss, Miss Lent.

Delegation from Somers, Miss Brown.

LETTER FROM VERMONT.

The following letter is so full of patriotism, that we must take the liberty of printing it for the encouragement of others. Let all read it.

VICTORY, VT., *Oct.* 1864.

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find one dollar as partial remuneration for your very interesting and useful work, which we have received nearly a year. It has been an efficient stimulus to keep up a lively interest in the hearts of the few, in this place, who are striving to aid a little in rendering relief to our suffering soldiers. This section of the country is very thinly settled, no villages or towns, and the people generally poor. At the commencement of the war some three or four ladies, most of them in indigent circumstances, made an effort to form a society for the relief of our sick and wounded soldiers. Being unable to obtain any assistance from other parts of the town, they felt obliged to abandon the project. But their patriotism could not long be restrained, and they resolved to do what little they could. They were at length joined by others and a few dollars were contributed. By untiring effort they have succeded in filling four boxes. Our offerings are few and meagre compared with those other societies, but we hope they may be of some use where so much is needed. The zeal that for a time moved others to activity seems to have died away, and the few are again left to labor alone. Though they can do but little, I trust their efforts will not cease while this dreadful war continues.

This is simply to let you know that your papers are received and appreciated, for which receive our warmest thanks.

Very truly yours,
MRS. C. W. KNEELAND.

THREE MONTHS CAMPAIGN IN THE SERVICE OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

As humanity is pretty much the same everywhere, and as I am human, I am certain that any facts or incidents which came

under my observation, and that interested me during my days of service in the Sanitary Commission, is likely to interest those of your readers whose hearts, and hands, and pockets are consecrated to the same noble and christian enterprise. I will occasionally occupy a small space in your columns, and endeavour to present such features of this work, which, though often treated upon, will still bear reiteration.

SUPPLIES.

I recollect well that my first wonder on getting an inside view of the workings of the Sanitary Commission, was at the immense amount of supplies required to meet the demands of each recurring day. I had frequently read in the newspapers manifests of the cargoes of propellers, and steamers, and barges employed by the Sanitary Commission to convey supplies to the water base of the Army of the Potomac, and had been both astonished and gratified; but figures on paper convey only a very remote approximation to the realization of the fact stated.

The first steamboat of the U. S. Sanitary Commission I was ever upon, was the Mary F. Rapley, and she was filled from stem to stern with sanitary stores, not a square foot of available space but had its load. When she left Washington, her manifest, containing a long list of articles, was published in the papers of that city; and to a person uninitiated, it seemed so long and so varied a list that he would think there was enough to supply the sick and wounded of a whole campaign. And yet two days' work at Port Royal exhausted the entire stock. And here let it be understood that these stores were not given out with a prodigal hand, for had they been, the stores on the "Kennedy" and "Hoboken," two Sanitary Commission barges, would also have been well nigh exhausted. No! but rather they were distributed in a manner which, if not parsimonious, was very economical. Every requisition for stores was duly examined, and all the particulars under which the requisition was framed were ascertained, and the articles granted with a due regard to the wants of the case and the condition of our supplies. In this connection it may not be improper to state that Mr. John A. Anderson, in charge of the Rapley, on arriving at Belle Plain on Monday evening, May 23, 1864, found our forces evacuating that place; and having learned the whereabouts of the next military base, he immediately headed his vessel for the place, which was Port Royal, on the Rappahannock. At that place our steamer arrived with its valuable supplies and large corps of nurses. With the exception of two gunboats ours was the third vessel there. Immediately after arrival the relief corps went ashore, pitched tents, built fires, and began at once to succor the wounded; seven hundred of whom had just arrived. The good work was prosecuted until every soldier who could, had taken refreshments; it was 3 A. M. of the 26th before the corps had finished their work.

I conclude this paper with the statement, that if the United States Sanitary Commission had never performed a good deed other than what it accomplished at Port Royal, its mission would have been a noble one. *For twenty-four hours at that point there were no supplies for the sick and wounded other than those furnished by this Commission*, and to get to that place the poor sufferers had ridden in springless army wagons, on corduroy roads, for thirty miles, without food; and had been three days in transit. At the expiration of twenty-four hours, government supplies were on hand in abundance, and were used in common with our own by our relief agents. *During our stay at Port Royal the United States Sanitary Commission was the only benevolent association represented there.* J. J. B.

LETTER FROM CITY POINT, REV. A. CATHER.

I wish to record my gratitude to God for the privilege of taking a trip to the region occupied by the armies operating against Richmond, and of seeing the great field of usefulness there opened up to a benevolent public. Please allow me to give a brief account of my visit, with familiarity, and of my impressions with freedom.

I noticed before reaching City Point that the name of the Sanitary Commission commands great respect among Government officials. My first evening spent at City Point impressed me with the magnitude of the work of the Commission from that stand-point as a base of supplies, and I began to feel impressed that there were influences at work for our brave soldiers of which I had never dreamed. The next day after reaching the Point, Dr. McDonald recommended me to go to the corps hospitals and see the working of the Auxiliary Relief Corps, under the superintendency of Mr. Fay. Thus each hour of that new day new

wonders opened to my view, and at its close I felt thankful to acknowledge it as one of the happiest days of my life. As I went from ward to ward through the hospitals with the agents, and saw the pleasure it afforded sick and wounded heroes to see us pass among them, I felt that each agent occupies an envious position among his fellow-men. Several incidents illustrate.

AN INDIAN SHARPSHOOTER.

Joy thrilled my heart as I bathed the broad breast of an Indian sharpshooter from Michigan, as I saw the expression of relief and gratitude that played upon his countenance, though he could scarcely speak a word of English. O how small a compensation is the utmost kindness to that son of the forest, be he sick or well, who goes forth to fight the battles of liberty.

AN IRISHMAN.

An Irishman, who seemed very much revived and refreshed by a little cologne poured upon his handkerchief, exclaimed, "O glory be to God." "Thanks be to the Son of God." It seemed to him a sort of climax of the kindness of the Sanitary Commission.

A GERMAN AND OTHERS.

A German, to whom the same little attention was paid, said, with great zest, "Dis like de faderland." Another man who was expressing earnest gratitude for some attention paid to him, was exhorted to render thanks to God, as the thanks did not belong to us, said: "Yes, all good gifts come from God," and seemed happy in the remembrance. One young man said, "Oh, if my mother could only do this for me," and we replied, we wish it could be so, but as it cannot, the Sanitary Commission was aiming to make up for the absence from home and friends. Again and again we heard the invitation, when leaving, the wards "Come again," "come soon again," &c.

The next morn Dr. McD. rode up in haste, saying to Mr. Fay that there had been a battle on the right, and that there were a large number of wounded at Deep Bottom without sufficient supplies and requesting him to be ready as soon as possible with as many agents as he could spare. The tug was soon at the wharf, and in a few minutes afterwards we were under way. The tug itself seemed almost under the inspiration of the hour, as she compelled the waters that a short time before swept by the rebellious city to bear devoted hearts and full supplies for our wounded brave. The scene that presented itself to us when we reached

DEEP BOTTOM.

beggars description. "The garments rolled in blood," "the groans and dying strife," filled the heart with horror for the moment. Three sets of shelter-tents were filled with double rows of wounded white and black men, who laid indiscriminately side by side. Together they fought and fell, and were laid side by side to receive equal attention from surgeon and nurse and agent of Commission. At once the agents went to work dressing wounds and distributing delicacies of food and drink, brought by the tug, as far as possible, according to the wants of each suffering man. The scenes presented at those amputating tables and tents, through those weary days and nights of suffering and storm and cold, can never be forgotten. How thankful were hundreds that the Sanitary Commission was represented by abundant supplies for those most pressing necessities and willing hands to distribute them day and night. Shirts torn and clotted with blood were exchanged for others new and warm, and other under-clothing as it was needed. Men shivering with pain did not forget to express earnest thanks for the well-timed provision. "A thousand thanks," cries one; "O thank you kind friends," cries another. O could the kind donors of these comforts have passed through those tents during those days of pain, and heard the expressions, how abundantly would they have been compensated for their donations, and how inspired would they have felt for new effort in this glorious cause!

Many scenes and incidents presented themselves during those several days, of a deeply interesting and impressive character.

A NEW YORKER.

One young man from New York City, about seventeen years of age was mortally wounded in the abdomen. He frequently exclaimed, "O, I am so sick!" He dictated a letter to his mother, stating that he was wounded the day before, but that he hoped to get along nicely. I inquired if he had anything in his pockets to send to his mother. He replied: "No, I have nothing to send her but my best love." Poor boy! it was his last message. As I told him to trust in God and remember that "Jesus died that he might live," he clasped his hand de-

voutly. The death agony and sickness came upon him, and in about half an hour after he dictated his last letter the mortal struggle ended. In his pockets were found a likeness of his sister and a few pieces of postage currency, which were sent to his mother.

HAPPY MAN.

Another brave man lay on a stretcher waiting to be laid upon the amputating table. We had done what we could for his comfort. I tried to speak cheering words and words of comfort to his soul. It was feared his wound would prove mortal. He presented a sublime spectacle as he lay suspended between time and eternity. He said, "I would love to live and see my wife and children, but I have peace with God and am not afraid to die, and I am resigned to the will of God." Happy man! Many wounded expressed gratitude that it was not worse with them. Others said they did not regret going into the army, and hoped they would get well so as to go back and see the thing through. Here are our patriots who know the issue in this contest and are willing to meet it, even unto death. Many other cases, equally interesting, I must pass.

THE FRONT.

My visit to the front, both right and left, was full of interest. I found the men cheerful to the utmost, though the men of the right had been suffering from exposure to the drenching rains, without their tents and without full supplies of food. They were confident of success. They say we will trust God and Grant, and will take care of the Johnnies. They requested the people at home not to forget them. Intelligent officers, as well as men, say with emphasis, if the men had more vegetables, &c., they would save many from sickness. Some say send plenty of saurkraut, pickles, and dried fruit, and they will go right to the spot. All along these bristling lines there is intelligence, and courage, and patriotism, and piety that will challenge the admiration of all good men. As I came away from those most interesting and exciting scenes my soul was all a-glow. A man may live a long period in a few days in that great army. Time would fail me to detail all the evidences of Christian heroism that presented itself.

The magnitude of the work and usefulness of the Sanitary Commission, to the souls and bodies of our soldiers, no one can fully know, who is not acquainted with the working of the entire system in all its details. I might speak particularly of the diligence and fidelity, the hard work and long hours at it, and love for it, on the part of those who work the vast and complicated machinery of the Commission with whom I was brought in contact, but cannot now. God bless them all in their great calling.

Of the work of the Commission in Washington I will not dare to give a description. It is so vast and complicated, and yet so systematically done, that the ablest pen would be required to do it justice.

VALUABLE TESTIMONY.

HOSPITAL 3D DIVISION 2D CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., Oct. 10, 1864.

DR. MCDONALD,
Chief of Sanitary Commission, Army of the Potomac.

DEAR SIR:—In behalf of the many sick and wounded soldiers of our army who have been in hospitals of the 2d Division 3d Corps, at Fitzhugh House, of the 3d Corps at Potomac Creek, and of the 2d Division 3d Corps at Brandy Station, under my charge, as well as the one where I am now writing, permit me to give my testimony to the usefulness of the United States Sanitary Commission — representing as it does, the expressions of the masses at home, it opens its storehouses to every soldier and gives him freely from its bounteous supplies; and being ever ready, it does not fail to do good wherever there is opportunity. The money so liberally given by the people at home is by no means given in vain — it reaches in a substantial way the tent and the hospital—to the well in the trenches, and to the sick and wounded ones in hospital. The agents of this Commission are always esteemed as gentlemen, and the true friends of the soldier. It has become a fixed institution, and whoever may write the history of this war cannot fail to give a conspicuous place in its pages to the United States Sanitary Commission.

I am, doctor, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
EDWARD LIVINGSTON WELLING,
Surgeon in Chief 3d Brigade 3d Division 2d Corps.

UNION PRISONERS IN TEXAS.

Dr. G. A. Blake, agent of the United States Sanitary Commission at New Orleans, under date of September 28, 1864, writes: "General Canby has ordered the quarter-

masters to forward to our prisoners in Texas clothing and medicines. Our commissioner has arranged with Major Ignatius Szymanski, Commissioner of Exchange for the rebels in the Trans-Mississippi Department, an exchange for three thousand four hundred and fifty of our soldiers now in Camp Ford, including naval prisoners. Possibly the number may be reduced, and the naval prisoners be obliged to remain at Camp Ford. Instances of cruelty at Camp Ford have been few, and at the last interview of the commissioner, 13th inst., the rebel commissioner informed ours that he had caused the removal of the captain formerly in command of the camp, as unsuitable to command a camp of prisoners, and better things may be hoped for. The prisoners that have come in from rebeldom west of the Mississippi river present a rugged as well as ragged appearance, and no great amount of sickness among them is reported. Last week the stores ordered by General Canby were forwarded, consisting of a complete outfit for twelve hundred men, including blankets and haversacks. Four hundred canteens, sixty axes and axe-helves, and medicines were also forwarded."—*N. Y. Even. Post, Oct.* 12.

SPECIAL RELIEF.

From Dr. Nichol's Report, Washington.

I have had during past week:

Applicants for pensions, . . .	99
Sick soldiers prescribed for and furnished medicines, Lodge 4, . .	48
Patients treated at Home Hospital, (men,)	104
Patient's treated at Women's Home, (women,)	12

FROM MISS S. L. PHILLIPS.

CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL, *October* 7, 1864.

I have but little to report to you with regard to affairs in this hospital during the past week. There is very little variety in my work, though I take great pleasure in doing all in my power for the comfort of the soldiers.

THREE SOLDIERS.

During the week three of our sick soldiers have died; one after a protracted sickness. He had long been a Christian, was aware he must die, and went willingly, though for the sake of his family, life was desirable. The other two were suddenly called away. One died of diphtheria, and the other of typoid malarial fever. Disease quickly did its work, and they were gone. Both expressed their dependence on the Saviour. Nineteen years was the age of each of these interesting boys. They were truly sacrifices to their country, and when I witness the decline and death of so many young men, whose hopes are as bright, and whose hold on life is as strong as our own, I feel that all *we can give* or *do* for them, is perfectly *paltry* in comparison with the fresh, young lives (their all on earth) that they have given for us.

CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

We learn from a friend who has been engaged for months past in the relief work in the Military Department of Tennessee, that the relations of the two Commissions are entirely harmonious in that department.

By common consent all the stores are turned over to the Sanitary Commission, and all the literature to the Christian Commission, and the agents of each draw from both alike, as they may need for the men.

The advantage of this arrangement is seen in the economy by which goods are distributed, and the benefit done to soldiers in not duplicating to the same men the issues of stores. In addition to this, the moral effect that is produced upon the army and the people who contribute is manifest. The tract and newspaper distributors draw for physical comforts from the Sanitary Commission. The agents of the Sanitary, in addition to giving physical comfort, draw for religious and other literature upon the Christian Commission for aid in that department of the service. Thus, unity of purpose and harmony of effort are combined for the common good, and the impression upon all who realize it, is favorable to the common cause of our government.

OUR PRISONERS AND REFUGEES.

Extract of a letter from City Point, by Alex. McDonald, M.D.

I have but little time to write, yet there are one or two things which may be of

interest to you. First, the enclosed letter, which accompanied a towel sent to the Sanitary Commission and issued to a man at the front.

Second, a short notice of our trips to Aiken's Landing, yesterday. At 8 30 A.M. an officer of the navy appeared, and informed us that about one hundred and fifty prisoners, just released from Richmond, were at Aiken's Landing, in want of everything to make them comfortable. Of course we prepared clothing and food for them, and started from this point at 9 30, with stores and relief agents; reached the Landing at 10 30, where we found the flag of truce steamer Mary Washington, loading naval prisoners, who were flocking across the neck from Cox's Landing; and who, on reaching her upper deck and catching sight of our gunboats and the dear old flag, sent up cheer after cheer, which was responded to by manning the rigging of our gunboats, and answering as only sailors can cheer.

The steamer New York was lying in the stream with several hundred released prisoners, soldiers. Most of them were seemingly well, but all showed the marks of confinement and hard fare.

There were about two hundred sick, many of them men wounded in the recent battles before Richmond. Some, sick from disease and long confinement, who can hardly recover, but the greater number were able to walk on board the boats and to keep about after arriving.

Major Mulford was having food prepared for all, and only needed a few stores from our stock; we provided all he wanted and returned to City Point, feeling thankful that there was no greater need of help. The beaming countenances of the men showed their inward feeling, and no one can tell what that feeling is even after having experienced it, and some of these men experienced it to the fullest extent, having just received their liberty after a captivity of fourteen months.

The "New York" passed down the river to-day. I am not sure if the Mary Washington followed her.

We have of late been doing an extensive business in the care of refugee families from the rebel country travelling to civilization. We have on board to-night four women and five children, some of whom have been three weeks on the road. Among the number is a woman seventy-four years of age, who came in almost exhausted by fatigue. They have all been fed, and are now stowed away on the upper deck looking quite comfortable, and evidently much pleased with their quarters.

We have a full house to-night as usual; the bunks are all full and the decks covered with soldiers, who are glad to find a resting place for their feeble, tired bodies, till the morning mail boat takes them North to a more bracing atmosphere and the tender care of home and friends.

October 19, 1864.

HISTORY OF A TOWEL.

It is now June 1st, 1864. The writer of this sits within her quiet and peaceful home, with kind friends to care for and love.

Yet we do not forget those who are laboring and suffering for us. I have had a soldier brother, but he is now at home disabled.

This towel is given by Capt. A. P. Nelson, Co. B, 52d Massachusetts Volunteer Militia.

He carried it through a nine months' campaign. It was with him at Donaldsonville, Port Hudson, &c., &c., and he now presents it to the *needy* soldier. May he who receives it be worthy. May God's blessing attend you ever while in the path of duty, is the wish of M. B.

Coleraine, Mass.

RELIEF WORK.

Extract from a report of one of the Auxiliary Relief Corps at City Point.

For the faithful conscientious Relief Agent there is no interval of rest, as long as he holds his position, and the war lasts. He fills his hands and empties them again; he gives sympathy that is his own, and yet the vast ocean of suffering is seemingly as overflowing as before. He grasps his arms *full* of labor, and looking ahead sees an unreached multitude, for whom he can only yearn and beseech Omnipotence. A gentleman, well known at the North, and who has interested himself largely in behalf of the soldiers, said to me but a few days ago, "I fear that many of the people at home think that there is no further need of supplies," and said that he would try to destroy that impression. If any have ceased their efforts while they can do more, they are making an error for which soldiers will suffer, but not atone. In the last fierce struggles which, though they are the last, may

be prolonged, it is but just that those who may be called upon to suffer should be as well cared for as those who suffered in the earlier of these sad days.

THE COMMISSION IN THE VALLEY.

FROM G. A. MUHLECH.

WINCHESTER, Va., *October* 13, 1864.

You are doubtless in possession of my letter dated Martinsburg, 11th inst. On my arrival here I found, I am happy to say, everything going on smoothly. Large issues have continued to be made to the many hospitals. The early season of frost and bad weather brought on a heavy and sudden pressure for blankets, quilts, underclothing and shoes. As to the hospitals, a further supply of quilts would be most welcome. Most of those cases now remaining at Winchester, are of the most serious nature, and quilts are by far preferable to the rough woolen blankets.

WORTH OF A PAIR OF SHOES.

I continue to send, almost exclusively, all our shoes to the front, knowing that each pair reinforces Sheridan's army by one man, who other wisewould be unfit for active duty. Our inmates of hospitals here, as well as the forces constituting the garrison, can better do without them, because they are sheltered, and are more within reach of the Quarter-Master's supplies. Our woolen socks have given out. There remains a large case at Martinsburg, which I ordered up with the first train. It would be well to forward a further supply, say a thousand pairs. * * *

PACKING HOSPITAL DELICACIES.

As to hospital delicacies, I must renew my old and constant complaint about the miserable mode of package. A large box of jellies, recently forwarded, reached here with almost every jar broken, and the contents entirely lost. This is so much the more to be regretted, as the article is very scarce, and constitutes almost the only kind of food for men shot through the mouth. Please give to it your earnest attention. * * *

FOOD TO ACCOMPANY THE WOUNDED.

Dr. Harris has ordered ten barrels of ale. It will be greeted with delight by our wounded. However, I fear that its transportation will prove difficult on account of its heavy weight. We have also made arrangements to send one team, loaded with food, along with every train of wounded; which, henceforward, will leave Winchester. I will detail two competent agents to care for the proper distribution along the road.

In regard to the hay or straw, recommended by yourself and Dr. Harris to be furnished to ambulances, wagons, and cars destined to transport sick and wounded men, I have seen Medical Director Dr. Hayes at Martinsburg, and put at his disposal the hay you forwarded to me sometime ago, and which I have saved for emergency. I sent instructions to Mr. Bannister to have it shipped by railroad. If this supply is not sufficient, we will either draw or buy at Martinsburg, as it is altogether out of the question to get it *here*, the valley being completely stripped of all food for beasts.

HOSPITAL VISITING.

To the Rev. Mr. Seaver I have entrusted the special superintendence of the hospital visiting. He has done admirably. Messrs. Corbin and Burdell are assigned to the same duty. They all work faithfully, and much to the credit of the Commission. Mr. C. is permanently stationed at the Sheridan field hospital. He has a stock of supplies with him, and comes every morning to our store-rooms to get whatever may be needed. * * *

UNION LADIES' ASSOCIATION.

With great satisfaction do I report to you that our Union Ladies' Association has worked, thus far, with admirable success. All these noble women have been unremitting in their efforts to help and relieve. Their visits are regular and long; their dispensations well adapted to the wants of the patients, while their presence at the sick-bed cheers up the hearts of these brave fellows, and reminds them of the far home and of a mother's or sister's loving care and devotion. They are well supplied by us with delicacies, and the use made by them above suspicion.

A train of four wagons came up last Monday night. I returned them to Martinsburg, yesterday. They will be joined there by the two wagons now under repairs, and will come up again to-morrow with an assortment of stores, which I selected myself before leaving Martinsburg. At the same time I will send, if ready, the two

teams now here, with to-night's train to bring up forage. * * *

Our mess has been established, and has been in operation about a week. Of course marketing here is difficult and dear, butter at from sixty to seventy cents, meat from seventeen to twenty cents per pound. We have bought the most necessary cooking utensils and table furniture; at any rate it will prove a considerable saving to the Commission. * * *

If at all possible, I will leave for the front (Middletown) early to-morrow morning. Word just now reaches me from Col. Fach that supplies are badly needed. The army is within my reach, and I must see for myself how things look up there. On my return I will start for Martinsburg and Cumberland, unless otherwise directed. Please hurry up *blankets and shoes* and woolen underclothing, principally SHIRTS. * * *

WINCHESTER, VA.
October 16, 1864.

Since my last report nothing of particular interest has to be recorded. The work goes bravely on. A large train, consisting of eleven wagons, heavily loaded, reached us this afternoon. We have had our hands full of work, and at the late hour at which I write you now, we have just finished unloading, counting, repacking and reloading three teams which to-morrow morning will start for the front. I will accompany them myself and look into the condition of affairs there. I take out a liberal supply of underclothing, crackers and farinaceous food. * *

Four empty wagons will return to Martinsburg to-morrow morning to move stores. Please order a further supply of *shoes*, they are badly needed; 500 sheets and 1000 more towels will prove also very welcome. As one of the most important *items* I have to mention, *postage stamps*. There is an immense pressure for them. We are conducting and constitute, *de facto*, the whole post department, and our daily number of letters does not fall much short of 2,000. Besides the surgeons in charge of hospitals and even the Medical Director's office had to fall back on the Commission for this, here so rare an article. * * *

Mr. C., our agent at the "Sheridan" gives great satisfaction. He is agent, storekeeper, hospital visitor, post-master, soldier, adviser—in reality a *fac-totum*, whose services are of immense value, and I am happy to add, fully appreciated by the medical officers, as well as by the poor sufferers. The arrival of our large train has prevented our corps of agents from terminating their reports. I will collect them to-morrow, and after perusal, forward them, together with the tabular statement of all issues (at Winchester) thus far.

On Thursday a train of wounded left for Martinsburg. As I mentioned already in a previous report, I had made arrangements to provide the poor fellows with food on the road. Mr. B. was detailed by me to accompany this train with one of our own teams, loaded with fresh soft bread, chocolate, stimulants, &c. All has been distributed wisely, and received gratefully by the brave boys. This arrangement will continue with each successive train of sick and wounded; while on their arrival at Martinsburg they will find hot coffee, tea or milk punch, with soft crackers, prepared by our agents there, and such help as they can find among our many true union ladies. * * *

The humane and generous work of the Commission, in behalf of the Confederate wounded, has not failed to deeply impress the population of this town; so justly noted down as the abode of the most bitter secesclivities. Respect and gratitude meet us everywhere.

The work of our "Hospital Visitors" will be more fully explained by Mr. Seaver's report, which will be forwarded to you by the first mail train. * * *

FROM NATHANIEL SEAVER, JR.

In the number of patients, the Sheridan stands first, containing as it does one-third of all and one-half of the Union patients in Winchester. Being a field hospital, its claims upon us for comfortable clothing, blankets, &c., are naturally greater than those of hospitals in town, where in most cases comfortable rooms, and in all cases stoves or fire-places, atone in a measure for the want of garments and bed-clothes. Sheridan is the receiving hospital also, for the greater part of those wounded in the more recent engagements. The *first needs* of these men, which are always greater than after they have been for some time in hospital, must of course be supplied at Sheridan. Taking these, as well as other facts, which I will not at present mention, into consideration, it is apparent that this hospital demands much of our attention. At the suggestion therefore, and with the valuable co-operation of Dr. Elisha Harris,

it was considered expedient to keep a permanent stock of goods upon the ground, and to establish an agent there to attend to their proper distribution, as well as to acquaint himself with the condition and needs of the patients. This plan met with the hearty approval of Dr. Hayden, the surgeon in charge, to whom we are under great obligations for his assistance in providing us with a tent, and with the means of transporting goods. His steward and other officers, have also been ready to aid us in every particular. Our stock of goods has been enlarged by requisitions made upon the local store-house. As agent, I have appointed Mr. Thomas J. Corbin, a gentleman whose experience, renders him peculiarly fitted for such a position.

In other hospitals, it has been customary to fill at the store-houses, general requisitions made by the surgeons in charge of the five hospital departments, viz: 6th, 8th, 19th, cavalry corps and insurgent hospitals. By this means each receives its fair proportion of goods. In my hospital visiting, however, I have found it also expedient to issue requisitions for individuals, such as nurses, ward-masters, assistant surgeons, friends or visitors, as the case might be, in order the better to meet the varying wants of wards and individuals. By this means cases which would by a general requisition be neglected, are reached, and persons of known benevolent intentions aided in their labors. The things most needed appear to be articles of clothing. There is a constant demand for tobacco, stimulants, shoes, woolen stockings and blankets.

I would suggest that wines, liquors and cordials, be packed in smaller bottles, (say two gills,) or some arrangement made by which they can be dealt out in smaller quantities, in order to provide against fraud, and secure a more even distribution. In addition to my visits, and assistance in the establishment and supply of the tent at Sheridan, I have also partly developed a plan for the safe delivery of letters which come to Winchester in care of the Commission. I am also engaged in drawing up maps of the localities of hospitals for the use of visitors and agents of the Commission, concerning which matters I hope to speak more at large in my next report.

FROM JOHN S. BLATCHFORD.

Having had an opportunity to observe, with great interest and grntification, the operations of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in the Shenandoah Valley, since the battle of Opiquan and Winchester, on the 19th ult., which inaugurated with so signal a victory Gen. Sheridan's successful advance through the valley—a brief relation of its work may afford interest to the many friends of the Commission in this vicinity.

Until the opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on the 30th ult., to Martinsburg, the Commission's depot of supplies for the army in Western Virginia, was at Harper's Ferry, a little more than thirty miles from Winchester, in the immediate vicinity of which the battle of the 19th was fought, and which became the depot for all our wounded in the valley, including the Confederate wounded left in our hands, and consequently the scene of the active work of the Commission. Martinsburg, its present base of supplies, is twenty-two miles from Winchester.

From these two points its supplies have been steadily sent forward to Winchester, and thence on to the front through a country dangerously infested with guerillas, who hover about all trains watching their opportunity of attack. It employs in this service an independent field train of ten four-horse army wagons, which move with the government trains under escort.

With each Army Corps the Commission has its permanent Relief Service, comprising at least one four-horse army wagon with supplies, and a relief Agent for each wagon. These move always with the advance of the Corps to which they are attached, and are constantly replenished by communication with the base of supplies. Upon the occurrence of the battle on the 19th, each Corps engaged, viz., the 6th, 8th, 19th, and Cavalry Corps, was accompanied by its Sanitary Relief Agent, whose supplies were immediately available and speedily exhausted among the more than four thousand wounded that were gathered into Winchester from an area of some ten square miles fought over.

Col. Muhlech, the efficient official in charge of the Commission's work in the Department of Western Virginia, immediately upon receiving intelligence of the battle, proceeded to Winchester with two wagon loads of supplies from the store-house at Harper's Ferry, which had been well equipped in anticipation of the emergency. He arrived at three o'clock on Tuesday morning—the 20th—the day after the bat-

tle, and at once established a depot of supplies, taking possession of a building placed at his disposal for the purpose by the military authorities. Dr. Jenkins, the General Secretary of the Commission, with Mr. Knapp, Associate Secretary, arrived on Thursday, the 22d, having first made provision for sending forward additional supplies from its store-houses at Baltimore and Washington, and at once entered upon the work of organizing the service of the Commission, with the view to secure the most careful use and efficient application of its resources. This was especially necessary in view of the inadequate provision of the Medical Department to meet the emergency, the consequent destitution and suffering among the wounded, and the difficulties it experienced, owing to the lack of transportation, in getting forward its supplies. General Sheridan's rapid pursuit of Early's retreating army imposed the heaviest tax upon the entire transportation service in his department in order to move forward his own supplies upon a continually advancing line. It was consequently apparent that the Commission having its own independent transportation, being able to communicate directly with its base of supplies by every opportunity of escort, would have to meet a large demand upon its resources. The organization of its work was so far accomplished, that upon the arrival of the next consignment of supplies on Monday of fourteen wagon loads, a very complete and admirable system of succor was in operation, and their distribution was effected in accordance with a distinct and equitable plan of division so as to reach as far as possible with directness and precision the most needy ones among the multitude of sufferers scattered among some forty different buildings, occupied for hospital use, throughout the town.

The plan of distribution was briefly, as follows: One-fourth of all supplies received was reserved to be sent forward to the front, to replenish the Relief Service with each corps. Another portion—about thirteen-twentieths—were issued directly to the corps hospitals in bulk, according to their ascertained necessities and the relative number of wounded in each. These issues were made to the surgeons in charge of each corps, and by them distributed among their several wards. A certain proportion was also appropriated for the Sheridan General Hospital, designed as the permanent post hospital, to which the severest cases are removed, as they are able, from the temporary depots in the town. The rapid preparation of this hospital, constituting as it did the principal provision for the better care and condition of the wounded, reflects the highest credit upon Dr. Brinton, the Medical Director, and Dr. McKay, the Medical Inspector, under whose immediate supervision it was constructed. Within a little more than four days, between 300 and 400 hospital tents rose into view on one of the beautiful elevations upon the southwestern edge of the town—a village in itself of no mean dimensions, with its broad and regular streets, and offering in comparison with the wretchedly comfortless and foul quarters in the town, a really attractive abiding place for eighteen hundred patients.

The remainder of each consignment of supplies was reserved for the Special Relief service of the Commission. This was organized with the aid of a few uncompromising Union women, residents of the town, who have each of them signally proved their claim to the title. They were without resources, and lacked all proper materials with which to minister to the comfort of the men, such effort as they could make having been directed to the relief of the wounded in one or two of the principal buildings. In order to secure systematic effort over the whole field, the Commission had a map of the town prepared showing every building occupied for hospital purposes, with the number of wounded in each. The whole area was then divided into seven districts, and one representative woman assigned to each, who became responsible for certain Relief work in her district, and to whom the Commission issued daily such articles suitable for the preparation of extra diet, as it was able with regard to the wants of the whole service. Each of the seven called to her aid such additional assistance as she found necessary to perform the service. The supplies issued to these ladies consisted of crackers, farina, condensed milk, beef juice, dessicated egg, stimulants, tea, sugar, &c. Another lady was designated for the same service on behalf of the Confederates wounded.

In addition to this Relief Service the Commission had its regularly organized corps of Hospital Visitors, whose duty it was to visit the wounded and report in detail upon their condition, wants, &c.—to supply such minor wants as writing paper,

envelopes, tobacco, &c.—to write letters for the disabled, and to perform such other personal service as they could for the comfort of the men. In the Sheridan General Hospital a large tent was assigned for the use of the Commission, and a Special Diet Kitchen established under the direction of Miss Harris, who superintends this service for all the wounded gathered there.

It would be difficult to relate in detail the many opportunities afforded for the peculiar work of the Commission, and the appreciative spirit with which its service was received and acknowledged on all sides. The whole work was organized and, with its minutest details, most ably and faithfully administered under the immediate direction of the General Secretary of the Commission It involved a daily visitation of the hospitals, consultation with the medical officers, as to the most efficient manner in which the Commission could bestow its aid, the character and quantity of the supplies most needed, the daily movement in the population of the hospitals under their charge, and all such information in relation to the disposition of the wounded as would affect its preparations. It received and transported for delivery to the post a daily average of one thousand letters. It was the recipient for transportation to their friends, of the personal effects of deceased soldiers. It was the channel of inquiry and communication by distant friends as to the condition of their wounded. It took steps to secure a more careful system of marking the graves of deceased soldiers, so as to secure with more certainty their future identification, and all these details were performed with a method and thoroughness that might characterize the ordinary transactions of a business establishment.

It worked in thorough harmony and cordial co-operation with the military authorities and the medical officers, whose untiring attention to the wounded, and unceasing efforts to remedy the defects of the situation, deserves a tribute of the highest praise. Each day witnessed an improvement in the condition of the men, and, as a fact that unrecorded, would leave any relation of the scene imperfect, it was stated by more than one surgeon that amid all the discomfort and suffering among our own men, they had not heard *one* utterance of complaint. Its distribution of supplies may be partially indicated by the following list, being those forwarded from Baltimore up to September 28th, and not including heavy consignments from Washington, nor the goods in store at Harper's Ferry, (estimated at about five wagon loads) at the beginning of the battle.

3,242 wool shirts, 3,336 wool drawers, 4,606 handkerchiefs, 3,832 pairs wool socks, 300 blankets, 500 quilts, 896 bed sacks, 2,062 cushions, 618 pillow ticks, 628 pillows, 1,024 pillow cases, 703 cotton drawers, 516 cotton shirts, 480 pairs slippers, 263 sheets, 996 pairs cotton socks, 20 pieces Mosquito netting, 15 pieces oil silk, 36 barrels crackers, 540 lbs. dessicated eggs, 960 lbs. roast beef, 3,264 lbs. condensed milk, 1,196 lbs. beef stock, 2,196 lbs. coffee, 1,832 lbs. sugar, 176 lbs. tea, 384 lbs. peaches, 10 barrels eggs, 20 boxes lemons, 50 boxes chocolate, 8 barrels potatoes, 1 barrel vinegar, 157 barrels dried apples, 120 lbs. corn starch, 288 lbs. Farina, 60 lbs. canned chicken, 47 lbs. butter, 1,678 bottles whiskey, 600 bottles sherry wine, 78 gallons pickles, 112 bottles blackberry brandy, 838 bottles Jamaica ginger, 12 bottles alcohol, 12 bottles Jamaica rum, 150 lbs. candles, 430 lbs. soap, 1,104 tin cups, 260 bed pans, 50 feeding cups, 240 spit cups, 509 tin plates, 144 basins, 108 lanterns, 12 doz. candlesticks, 120 head-rests, 12 bed tables, 41,000 envelopes, 25 reams note paper, 179 doz. chewing tobacco, 179 doz. smoking tobacco, 10 hogsheads ice, 750 pairs of crutches, linen bandages, pails, spoons, knives and forks, brooms, washboards, washtubs, baskets, chisels, tacks, hatchets, axes, saws, hammers, corkscrews, can-openers, lamps, kettles, stoves, oil pans, boilers, blank-books, mucilage, penholders, pens, lead pencils, ink, corn meal, lint, sponges, adhesive plaster, table salt, shoes, oats, hay, reading matter, &c.

These supplies were all issued with due form—a requisition and receipt accompanying each issue—and each night the account of stock in store-house made to correspond with the recorded issues of the day.

Such is a very brief and partial relation of what a few days gave opportunity to observe of the work of the Commission upon one of the many occasions when it carries the bounty and kindly ministrations of our peaceful homes to the suffering heroes of our battle-fields; and I would fain impart something of the satisfaction the observation has afforded to at least a few of the many untiring workers and supporters of the Commission, who do not look upon the

scenes of its most active and beneficent work.—*Boston Transcript, October 17th,* 1864.

From Thomas J. Corbin.

Sheridan U. S. A. Gen'l. Hospital,
Winchester, Va., October 16, 1864.

The calvary corps hospitals I found in excellent condition, especially the one in the Methodist Church on Market street. The patients in the hospitals of both corps (8th and cavalry) appeared cheerful and contented, and seemed to me to be as comfortable as could be expected, under then existing circumstances. Such supplies as had been drawn from the Sanitary Commission appeared to me, on looking over the requisitions and comparing the quantities drawn, with what I saw in the hospitals in use, to have been faithfully and judiciously applied. In addition I supplied several patients with blankets, under clothing, &c.

The condition of patients in the Sheridan hospital is daily improving. Although they yet lack some of the comforts which could be supplied them further north, yet, upon the whole, they appear to me to be more comfortable than could be hoped. A supply of warm under clothing and shoes is much needed.

The post-office for the camp has been established in the Commission's tent, and promises to become quite a convenience to the men.

The articles enumerated in this statement have gone, as I believe, directly to the patients that they were intended for, and I have heard the highest praise awarded, by both officers and men, to the Commission for the energy and forethought shown in furnishing supplies of all kinds, without which the sick and wounded must have suffered severely. On one occasion I furnished stimulants for one hundred and fifty wounded en route to Martinsburg, there not being any in the dispensary of the hospital. But for the Commission, these men would have been sent without any stimulants whatever.

From Wm. J. Brindell.

* * Met no difficulties until within three quarters of a mile of Woodstock. Here the left flankers were fired upon by guerillas, concealed in the woods, causing only a momentary delay and doing no injury, henceforward we went on more cautiously. Every eye was strained to its utmost capacity—in woods, over hills, first to the left, then to the right, to catch the first sight of Moseby's men. At length we reached New Market. All was in readiness to park, when an unwelcome sound set every nerve to twitching. "Zip, zip," was heard, and we knew so well the meaning of that unspoken language, that it was not a long while before non-combatants got under cover. We were again attacked. Quietness prevailed in a short time, and we retired to rest only to be awakened out of a sleep, in time to hear the command, "Men, rally around the wagons." * * *

Presently the monotony of our ride was broken in upon by the crack of a rifle. This wakened us very soon. We heard three shots fired but could see no one. The reports came from the rear of the train, and we were distant six miles from Harrisonburg. A halt was ordered and the firing ceased; after which we moved on and reached Harrisonburg without molestation. It was only then I found that my travelling companion was missing, together with several others. I went directly to Sheridan's headquarters, and through the kindness of Dr. Geisallen, Medical Director, ascertained the situation of the 8th and 19th corps. The goods were then distributed according to their respective necessities. During my stay in town I visited by request of the Director, the different hospitals, and found that they had already received the benefit of sanitary stores through the promptness of Mr. Hammer, agent for the 19th corps. The round trip occupied eight days.

On my return to Winchester I commenced visiting the sick and wounded scattered in private houses, to the number of fifty-two, the majority of whom were badly wounded, and in great need of delicacies and stimulants; many of the families with whom they were staying had not means sufficient to sustain themselves, much less to provide delicacies for others. Many are lodged in families whose predilections and sympathies are strongly southern, and consequently bitterly opposed to everything northern, yet they are caring for our sick and wounded. Always have I asked particularly, in these latter cases, "Are you being well cared for by the family?" and the answer is given in the affirmative. I have yet to hear the first case of complaint. All the men are improving and in good spirits.

EXTRACT of a graphic letter from Colonel Muhlech to F. N. Knapp, written after the retreat of our forces from Cedar Creek, Va., on the 18th of October:—

The musketry was perfectly awful for about ten minutes, but the enemy were bloodily repulsed, and at nightfall we held our ground everywhere. All trains had been ordered to the rear, and the capture of every wagon at one time seemed almost inevitable. I had just one day before, sent out three wagons loaded with supplies for our field agents. To hunt up these six corps wagons, was an awful task. However, I succeeded, got them into line, and then a retreat commenced as I never had seen before. Over hills and rocks, through ditches and ravines, the trains went to the rear at a furious speed. The pioneer corps had in some places to cut us a road through the woods, as the pike could not be used on account of the enemy's artillery fire, which was very heavy. However, the whole army train reached Winchester in safety. My wagons and every particle of stores are safe. Near Newtown, about seven miles south of Winchester, one of our loaded wagons broke down. By dint of hard work and strong exertion, we had the goods rapidly unloaded, and put in one of the empty wagons, losing nothing but a barrel of dried apples, which was knocked to pieces, and had to be abandoned. Reaching a point about two miles south of Winchester, the trains awaiting further orders parked on both sides of the road, I ordered our own wagons out of the line, and had them brought into town in charge of Col. Fach, with instructions to keep the loaded wagons untouched, and to have all our empty ones (five) ready at a moment's notice, with the horses harnessed. To the store-house I sent instructions, to quietly pack away all valuable articles, and to keep delicacies on hand, to be hurried over to the hospitals and lady visitors, in case it should have to be evacuated. Seeing all my train safe, (the broken wagon included,) I returned at once to the front, falling in very soon with General Fessenden, and we both, without even an orderly, pushed forward again to the line of battle. My object was to ascertain exactly the condition of our army, and the probabilities for an evacuation, or for a renewed battle to-morrow morning. I am inclined to believe in the latter, as the bulk of the stragglers were driven out of Winchester by the provost guard, and returned to their corps, and as up to this late hour (midnight,) no indication of a retreat has appeared as yet. Whatever may happen, the circumstance shall not find me wanting.

At day-break to-morrow morning, I shall return to the field with one or two loads of such stores as are most needed on the battle-ground. * * *

I have furnished to the hospitals, a daily and quite large supply of poultry, butter, eggs, apple-butter, honey, buttermilk, &c. Besides, the Commission furnishes to the wounded on their way to Martinsburg food and stimulants, as these poor fellows very often are hurried away without a proper supply, and would arrive in Martinsburg in a starving condition. *Soft bread, ham, dried beef, chocolate, etc.*, constitute those supplies.

Four of our teams with wagon-master Clarke, are at Martinsburg. If the army does *not* fall back I shall expect them up to-morrow, with some of the needed goods.

We have no reliable information as yet, as to the total number of our wounded in to-day's battle, however it must be large; we keep there a sufficient stock of stores at my disposition. * * *

Please do not forget the *postage stamps*. We are conducting here the post-office for this whole army, and the number of letters forwarded daily averages between two or three thousand. * * *

FROM G. A. MUHLECH.

HARPER'S FERRY, Va., *October* 23, 1864.

Returning late in the evening from the field of battle, I ascertained that but the *slightly* wounded men would be brought to Winchester, while all the severe cases had to be left at Newtown, where a large field hospital was established in great haste. As in almost every case, so here again the government supplies were scanty and entirely inadequate. Long lines of ambulances were coming in every quarter of an hour, until the hastily erected hospital tents and every house of the village were crowded with wounded men. Large numbers were stretched out along the sidewalks, without straw, and many, even without a blanket to cover them. Giving the spur to my horse, I hurried back to Winchester and ordered a wagon to be ready at daylight, to start for Newtown with such stores

as were most immediately needed. Early next morning Mr. Knowlton (a very excellent young man) left in charge of a very heavy load of assorted goods. He had instructions to ascertain more fully the wants at Newtown by conferring with the surgeon in charge; also to stay and assist in the distribution of these goods. He was expected back in the evening next day; had, however, not arrived yet when I left for Martinsburg. I trust he may not have met with any accident.

Friday last (21st inst.) will be long remembered by our whole Sanitary household. Early in the morning I received information that about two thousand of our brave, bleeding boys were expected to pass through Winchester, on their way to Baltimore. I proceeded at once to the Medical Director's Office, for the purpose of inquiring whether all the necessary arrangements had been made for feeding and providing these men on their long journey. Though assured that orders had been given to have 2,000 rations cooked for them, I felt strongly inclined to think that there might be some delay. Accordingly, I had a large number of wash-boilers brought to our mess room, with a sufficient quantity of sugar and coffee, and our cooks went to work at once. Medical Purveyor Dr. Shields, our friendly neighbor, gladly put his own store at my disposal, and another large quantity of coffee was prepared by us there, too; finally I made an appeal to Mrs. Brittain for the same purpose, and that lady, also, willingly lent a helping hand. I next went to the baker shop, securing there one thousand loaves of *soft* bread. In the meanwhile I had ordered up the whole force of my corps, and given them instructions for a systematic distribution among the different division trains of ambulances. Every hand was now busy. Some looking to the coffee, which had to be carried, boiling, several squares; others, carrying large armsful of bread; others again cutting ham and dried beef in large quantity. It was about 5 o'clock when the head of the endless line of ambulances came in through the main street. Those of the 6th Corps stopped right in front of the Taylor Hotel and of our store rooms, while the different divisions of the 8th and 19th Corps filed into the steeets of their respective hospital head quarters. And now the work of charity commenced. Darkness had meanwhile set in; the streets were entirely blocked up with double lines of ambulances. Hundreds of lanterns and flickering lights were passing to and fro; men were rushing into houses and stores for assistance, or demanding some article pressingly needed. Our own room presented the spectacle of a motley living mass. Officers of all ranks, surgeons, nurses, well men and wounded, all crowded the limited space, anxious to reach the Commission's help either for themselves or for some comrade and dear friend. It was indeed, a task more difficult and trying than I had yet met with, to help and direct on all sides; however, thanks to the noble behavior of our own agents, of some true citizens, (who offered me their assistance,) and of half a dozen of brave boys of the 37th Mass., (in garrison at Newtown,) the Commission's great and sole object—to brighten this dark hour was attained and well fulfilled. Not an ambulance was slipped. Two detachments of agents with assistants passed along each line of ambulances, some distributing coffee, others soft bread, others again ham, dried beef, chocolate, etc. When our coffee had given out we fell back on milk punch which was exceedingly relished. Thus we worked, one and all, until ten (10) o'clock at night. By that time all the poor sufferers were fed, their wounds dressed, and then this immense train, loaded with maimed soldiers, took up again its long and dreary march towards the Potomac. The night was bitter cold and rainy. Many wounded were shivering with cold; as far as any means reached I distributed blankets, quilts, towels, handkerchiefs, etc., etc. At a late hour Dr. Blaney again called on me for stimulants. The Medical Department had whiskey, but only in barrels, and distribution in such a form and under such circumstances was impracticable. Again the Commission proved a saviour.

Never shall I forget the ghastly sights of that October night! never the groans and moanings of that living mass of mutilated soldiers, fighting, no longer the foe, but agony and death. Many, very many, I grieve to say it, were in no condition to bear transportation to such distant points and over such rough and broken roads.

What did I find on my arrival at Martinsburg? No cooked rations, no stimulants, no covering for these shivering, half-dead men! Helpless, Dr. Hayes ran about, not knowing *how* or *where*, to find assistance. Information of the arrival of this

immense train only reached him, when the head of the column was almost on the outskirts of the town. Be it said to his honor, all that was within human power, was done by this officer, to help and alleviate. He was faithfully assisted by Mr. Westcott and myself. I am happy to state that he received the assistance of the Commission with profound gratitude. Every drop of stimulant, every cracker, the last quilt or blanket, were put at his disposal. Large numbers of wounded were carried into private houses, fed, dressed and tenderly cared for. Well may the Union feel proud of Martinsburg—well may feel proud her noble daughters! Nor do I draw a line between Union people and their political foes—they all did nobly, and their conduct will be forever recorded in the grateful hearts of thousands.

The hay previously forwarded by Mr. Bannister to Martinsburg, proved truly a God-send; however, the quantity was altogether insufficient. Not an armful of hay or straw were obtainable in all the town. I would gladly have paid any price, had it only laid in our power to get it.

A letter from Dr. Harris reached me on the very day when I left Winchester. It was the pressing, absolute necessity of getting supplies *at once and in large quantities*, which directed me to hasten to Martinsburg personally, in order to get telegraphic communication with you. * * *

I accompanied the sad "cortege," and after a gloomy, mournful ride on horseback, lasting all night, we reached Martinsburg yesterday morning at 8 o'clock. * * *

From S. Bradley Westcott.

Martinsburg, *October* 15, 1864.

We arrived at this place on Friday, September 30, and found that we had been assigned a store-house, which upon examination proved to be inadequate to our need, but upon application to Capt. Wray, Quartermaster, we were through his kindness assigned a very finely situated and commodious store, in Granatham Hall building on King street, which we now occupy as office and supply depot, retaining the other as a store-house.

We are greatly indebted to the officers in charge at this post, and their assistants for many acts of kindness and courtesy, since we have been stationed here. * * *

We forwarded to Winchester, October 4, six wagon loads; October 10, four wagon loads; October 15, eleven wagon loads. Seven of the latter were our own, and four were government wagons.

We have also distributed a very large quantity of goods, both clothing and food, for the use of the sick and wounded, who pass through here from the front. We have also issued a limited quantity of clothing to individual soldiers, who were away from their commands and destitute of clothing. * * *

The hospitals are visited by us on the arrival of the trains, and such aid rendered as lays in our power, such as the administering of stimulants, and to their wants as the case may demand, and our facilities allow. * * *

List of articles issued by the U. S. Sanitary Commission at Winchester, Va., to hospitals and wounded men quartered in private houses, from September 21 to October 21, inclusive.

Bed sacks	1022	Crackers, lbs.	3240
Blankets (woolen)	516	Corn Starch, lbs.	810
Candlesticks	54	Corn meal, barrel	1
Combs, fine	844	Ext. Jamaica ginger, bts.	718
" coarse		Farina, lbs.	619
Cushions	790	Jellies and preserves, lbs.	26
Head-rests	46	Lemons	4730
Knives and Forks	24	Maizena, lbs.	1015
Medicine cups	22	Nutmegs, lbs.	3
Musquito netting, pieces	26	Pickles, gallons	8½
Oil silk, pieces	27	Pepper, lbs.	22
Pails, wooden	41	Porter, bottles	432
Pillows	495	Potatoes, barrels	3
" cases	466	Rum, Jamaica, bottles	48
" ticks	293	Salt Fish, lbs.	40
Quilts	369	Sugar, white, lbs.	625
Sheets	228	" brown, lbs.	925
Spit cups	19	Tamarinds, kegs	2
Spoons, doz.	22	Tea, black, lbs.	165
Towels	1147	" green, lbs.	16
Tin cups	998	Tobacco, smoking, lbs.	306
" basins	56	" chewing, lbs.	200
" plates	500	Tomatoes, lbs.	64
Brooms	23	Raspberry vinegar, bot.	12
Candles, lbs.	40	Sherry wine, bottles	496
Kerosene stoves, with furniture	7	Whiskey, bottles	618
Drawers, cotton	824	Alcohol, bottles	4
" woolen	1118	Bandages, barrels	3
Handkerchiefs	2740	Bay rum, bottles	37
Shirts, cotton	862	Cologne, bottles	24
" woolen	1016	Crutches, pairs	243
Shoes	334	Fans	132
Slippers	260	Games	29
Socks, cotton, pairs	2210	Lint, lbs.	240
" woolen, "		Magazines	quantity
Dried apples, lbs.	400	Old Linen, barrels	3
Beef stock, lbs.	682	Reading matter	quantity
Blackberry wine or brandy, bottles	70	Slings	59
Canned meats, lbs.	206	Soap, lbs.	282
" fruits, lbs.	364	Splints	366
Fresh eggs, barrels	10	Sponges, lbs.	2
Dessicated eggs, lbs.	382	Tracts, boxes	3
Liquorice, lbs.	5	Adhesive plaster, rolls	5
Extract of Vanilla, bot.	12	Envelopes	14355
Bromine, oz.	47	Ink bottles	22
Chocolate, lbs.	837½	Note paper, reams	49
Coffee, ground, barrels	2½	Pencils, dozens	28
Condensed milk, lbs.	3482	Pen holders, dozens	53
		Pens	quantity
		Mucilage, bottles	9

G. A. Muhlech,

Supt. U. S. San. Com. Dept. W. Va.

LETTER FROM AN OBSERVER.

FIELD HOSPITAL, 3D DIVISION, 2D CORP,
Before Petersburg, Va. Oct. 21, 1864.

A tour of inspection of some weeks in the armies operating against Richmond, with special reference to the *religious* and *sanitary* efforts made for our soldiery has impressed upon my mind some thoughts I wish to express.

Reserving for another occasion my remarks upon the religious work, please note for the present the sanitary work of the Commission. The question whether such an institution is needed at all, has been settled long ago, and unanswerably. The blessings of thousands now living and actively serving their country, is upon it, and in the firm conviction that they could not have lived, except for the sanitary stores, and kind and timely aid received through this organization. While the government makes a liberal and considerate provision for its soldiery, above what any other nation has made, and perhaps all that should be expected of it, there are yet many stores—delicacies for the sick, cordials for the fainting, clothing for the wounded, which government cannot furnish, or not in sufficient quantities, especially in the frequent emergencies of so terrible a campaign as this one has been. These thousand things, which our citizen soldiery had when at home, the Sanitary Commission furnishes to them in the field, and thus brings back to their memories and hearts, the sweet ministries of wife, mother, sister, in the old homestead. This of itself doubles the probability of their recovery if sick, and increases their value in the field, for it keeps bright and strong, the chain which binds them to their homes, and ever presents the dear ones for whom they are doing battle.

FIELD HOSPITALS.

The Commission is of untold value in the *field hospitals.* The hospital is the saddest place in an army; it is also the place where you see the best side of our poor humanity. Take, as an illustration of what the Sanitary Commission does for our men in hospital, a simple statement of the facts in one case.

In the 3d Division Hospital of the 2d Corps, where all the government appointments are admirable—Dr. Everts, Medical Director; Dr. Welling, Surgeon-in-charge, with able assistants; Chaplain Porter, caring for the sanitary and religious interests, experienced and kind nurses, and all other provisions for the sick which government can make—there is still a wide field of action, blessed and greatly needed action—for this beneficent society. There are brought a dozen of wounded men, into the hospital whose clothing has been cut to pieces, to get at their wounds for dressing. Here is needed immediately a dozen shirts and drawers, and some slippers, a half dozen hospital gowns, some caps for the head, paper, pens, envelopes, and a ready hand to speed a letter home, and tell the friends the facts in each case—All these the Sanitary Commission furnish. As soon as the poor fellows are washed, their wounds dressed, and their clean garments on, they want some cordial, tea, farina, or some other delicacy furnished by the Commission. And when about to return to the field of action after recovery, they are destitute of needles, thread, buttons, kerchiefs, socks, &c. These the Commission provides. Now suppose, as is the fact, that there has passed through one Division hospital since this campaign commenced, four thousand wounded, and three thousand sick men, and that the great mass of them needed and received more or less aid of this kind, and language cannot express the amount of suffering relieved, comfort afforded, encouragement given, and hope infused in hearts which greatly appreciate human sympathy. I am informed that above ten thousand dollars worth of sanitary stores have been furnished to those seven thousand sufferers mentioned above. A thousand blessings on the donors! And this only one specimen of its wide work.

INDIVIDUAL RELIEF.

A still more interesting, if not more important part of the Commission's work, consists in its *personal ministrations not only to the wounded and the sick but to the weary, worn, exhausted men in the trenches, on picket, on march, and especially in battle.*

Go for one day with Rev. John E. Vassar, who labors with the Commission in the 3d Division of the 2d Corps, and note his labor of love. Early in the morning he fills his haversack with paper, envelopes, tea, needles, buttons, ginger, tobacco, and some tracts and papers, or testaments, and is off upon a tramp of six, eight or ten miles through camps, artillery parks, forts, trenches, and even into the picket lines, in

front of the enemy. Here he asks for a cup of water, and gives in return paper and envelope, and a word of exhortation that the soldiers may drink of the waters of eternal life. There he leaves tobacco, and tells the men not to be satisfied with earthly things. Here he writes a letter for a poor fellow who cannot write, all the while praying that his name may be written above. There he whispers to a dying man of Jesus and his love—all the while pressing on, doing good in every way opened up, and winning upon himself and those who send him, grateful blessings. And now suppose a battle is imminent—an advance about to be made, Vassar hurries back to the station; the sanitary wagon is loaded with an assortment of all things needed for the fearful emergency—horses are in readiness, and with the command "march," he is off, and close up to the marching, fighting men, and when the wounded begin to be borne back by tens or fifties, or hundreds, here oftentimes among the first in the temporory hospital are found the sanitary stores and their prompt agents. And a thousand dollars worth of needed stores administered at such a time, and by men of such large sympathies, and cheering, hopeful words—as is Vassar, and many other laborers—is worth ten times its cost, to the donors at home, and to the men who are succored. But my paper is filled.

I am aware that some say that the Commission has received enough. Enough! Enough perhaps for this stupendous campaign so far, but without a constant and liberal income, it is impossible to carry forward so vast and beneficent a work. No, no, not enough, till the rebellion is put down and every sufferer has been relieved as far as possible by the sympathies and benefactions of the loyal North. Nor will it do to say, that the supplies are not all placed in the hands of those for whom provided. There must be some expense in the distribution, and there may occasionally be some misuse. What human work is immaculate? Take it all in all, I doubt if ever so large a benefaction was so well administered. Only let active, earnest men, to go personally to the needy, and give with their own hands be increased, and the system will be near perfection.

J. M. STEVENSON.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

WASHINGTON,
October 6, 1864.

COL. HOFFMAN, U. S. A.
Com Gen. of Paroled Prisoners.

SIR:—The Sanitary Commission desires, with the approval of the Medical Department, to place an agent or agents with sanitary supplies on board such boats as may be sent south to bring back our exchanged or paroled prisoners. The object would be to minister to the well being and comfort of our returning men, acting of course under the direction of the surgeon in charge.

I would, therefore, respectfully request of you permission to place such agent or agents and supplies on board such boats.

Respectfully, your ob't serv't,
FRED. N. KNAPP,
Associate Sec.

OFFICE OF THE COM. GEN. OF PRISONERS,
Washington, D. C., October 10, 1864.

FRED. N. KNAPP,
Asso. Sec. U. S. San. Com., Washington, D. C.

SIR:—Your application on behalf of the U. S. Sanitary Commission of the 6th inst. requesting authority to send an agent or agents with sanitary supplies, on board the steamers which are about to be despatched to Charleston or Savannah, to receive invalid paroled prisoners, the object being to minister to the necessities and comfort of the returning men, has been laid before the Secretary of War, and I am directed to inform you that the application is granted.

The steamers, four or five probably, are expected to leave Fort Monroe the latter part of this week, under the orders of Maj. Gen. Butler, Commissioner for Exchanges, who will be informed of the permission granted to you, and will, no doubt, afford you every facility for carrying out your benevolent design.

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't
W. HOFFMAN,
Col. 3d Inf'ty, Com. Gen. Prisoners.

OUR PRISONERS.

The following extract of report to Mr. F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary, on supplies to our prisoners, made by Dr. M. M. Marsh, Agent, will be read with peculiar interest:

In June last, the authorities in Charleston, allowed us to send such supplies as

individuals desired. The facilities for transportation were limited, but I think, allowed to the extent the enemy could afford. Having no memoranda with me, an exact statement of the number of times and quantities sent, cannot be given; but through the month of July and to the 18th of August, supplies were forwarded to individual prisoners who distributed them at discretion, and returned receipts for the same through the Confederate authorities.

About this time a regular system of intercourse was instituted by the appointment of Commissioners of Exchange. Col. Woodford by Major General Foster, and Col. Lay, by Major General Samuel Jones, on the part of the enemy. Both are honorable and high-minded men, who have accomplished all that the embarrassing circumstances always attending exchanges, and so little comprehended by the public, would permit.

Col. Woodford's zeal to relieve the necessities of our unfortunate men, has abundantly testified to the discretion of the Major General commanding in his appointment, while Col. Lay, has done all his position would permit to second the efforts of our own commissioner.

Our method has been to take receipts for supplies from the Confederate commissioner, having invoiced them to some prisoner personally known to us, requesting him to distribute to those most needy, and by letter acknowledge to us the receipt of the goods. Acknowledgments of these issues have usually been promptly returned, and for the satisfaction of the donors, we are happy to state that in all probability, a very large per cent. of supplies, have reached our men so sadly needing them.

ARTICLES ISSUED TO PRISONERS.

The aggregate amount forwarded to officers and privates in Confederate prisons, irrespective of issues to those exchanged, stands thus —3,500 pairs woolen socks, 4,370 woolen shirts, 3,250 pairs woolen drawers, 4,500 handkerchiefs, 4,500 towels, 190 coats, 123 vests, 1,000 pairs pants, 1,000 do. shoes, 1,000 hats, 2,000 blankets, 733 bed ticks, 1,000 pillow ticks, a quantity of needle books, pin cushions, soap, combs, stationery, games, abdominal bandages, stimulants and tin ware. 20 bbls. soft crackers, 1,000 lbs. corn starch, 1,000 lbs. farina, 75 lbs. arrow root, 1,000 lbs. beef steak, 1,000 lbs. canned tomatoes, 500 lbs. chocolate, 200 lbs. cocoa, 1,000 lbs. coffee, 140 lbs. tea, 180 gallons pickles, 250 lbs. jellies, 11 bbls. dried fruit, 144 lbs. lemon juice, 10 lbs. pepper, 10 lbs. mustard, 6 dozen bottles extract of ginger.

Since the above issues, we have received 3,000 blankets, 2,000 shirts, 2,000 pairs drawers, 2,000 pairs socks, 1,000 pairs shoes, 2,000 pairs pants and 1,000 blouses, a large portion of which, if not all, has previous to date, been issued and received by our unfortunate men at different places within the Confederate lines.

The cash value of these supplies will exceed $65,000.

The above list is irrespective of the extensive and valuable invoice selected by the Associate Secretary, Mr. F. N. Knapp, and forwarded to the Department of the South, in anticipation of a general exchange of prisoners.

Thus can be seen at a glance the amount of relief work performed in this Department in a brief space of time. The manner of doing this work has already been detailed.

The assistance received from the military authorities, I gratefully acknowledge. From the Major General commanding to the laborer on the wharf, all have lent a willing hand.

Were evidence needed of the soldiers active sympathy with suffering, here it is overwhelming. Brother could not do more for brother, than officer and private, have done each in his place, in all our undertakings.

From our first coming here, the Quartermaster's Department, has furnished all needed transportation, and often to its own manifest inconvenience, and has now added to the obligations previously imposed upon the Commission.

When these tens of thousands of sufferers were thrown upon the Commission, and our large stock of supplies was rapidly being exhausted, Capt. Lamb, A. Q. M., at a reduced valuation, supplemented us from his own stores, and in preparing and urging forward supplies, evinced a benevolence of heart and energy of action, that should be known to all whose privations he assisted to lessen.

THE following from Dr. Blake, concerns Prisoners in Texas:

FROM DR. GEORGE A. BLAKE.

NEW ORLEANS, *October* 14, 1864.

Mr. Stevens arrived last Saturday. An exchange of prisoners will occur within a few days near the mouth of the Red River, and he will accompany the Commissioner of exchange on the trip. As some of our prisoners will be obliged to march from Camp Ford, in Tyler, Texas, to Alexandria, La., about one hundred miles, and others, crowded on transports, to come down Red River, more or less of them will become used up, and require attention. He will take with him stimulants, milk, beef-stock, crackers, &c., articles easily prepared and easily dispensed. * * *

I had an interview this A. M., with Col. Vollum, Medical Inspector, on Gen. Canby's staff, by his request. He expressed himself very favorably towards the Commission, and wished me to report to him at the end of the month, the amount of vegetables issued from our store-house. I asked him if he had visited our "Home" in the city, he replied, "Oh, yes, I have been all over it, spent many a day there, because I heard some complaints against it, but I found it an *excellent institution.*" In view of a concentration of troops in the region of Mobile, there must be considerable passing of troops to and fro, between here and there, via the Lake. The boats will land at Lakeport, and as there is no accommodation there for rest or provision, I have concluded to establish a "Lodge" at that place. I consulted with Col. Vollum about it, and he endorsed that it be done at once. I shall go there to-morrow, and secure a building if possible.

I have opened a correspondence with a Confederate chaplain, with a view of establishing an agency in Texas, for the relief of our prisoners there. * * *

AN OFFICER'S TRIBUTE TO THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

The following is an extract from a private letter of a Rhode Island cavalry officer:

The Sanitary Commission is doing wonders. Volumes could be written in its praise, and fall short of justice. Its agents are everywhere at all times; none seem tired, none rude, none impatient. No call goes unheeded, no suffering unalleviated within their means. They are amply provided with everything. Every dollar expended by them is returned an hundred fold. And of the female nurses who have so nobly sacrificed every comfort of home for the stern duties they are fulfilling, what can be said? Exposed daily, hourly, to the most disgusting, abhorrent scenes, shocking to the senses, revolting in the last degree under any other circumstances, these angels of mercy go about their duties as quietly and steadily as about common household affairs. Oh, if you could see the wistful, longing faces upturned, as these nurses come along, loaded with nutritious soups, chicken broth, nice soft bread and butter, jellies, preserves, &c. wine, brandy, lemonade, milk-punch, egg nog, each given to the proper case, and the silent grateful look of those too weak to speak, the heartfelt thanks of those who can, your heart would melt with pity and love, and you would say to your sisters and brethren at the North, *send* money, *send money*, send *anything* to the Sanitary Commission.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PA.

The official report of the late Council of women for this county, is not yet received. We hope to have it for the next number of the *Bulletin.* The following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, we clip from the *Independent Republican*, of Montrose, for October 25:

Resolved, That we regard the labors of the Sanitary Commission, as second in importance only to the actual service of the soldiers in the field, and that our confidence in its efficiency increases more and more, as we become thoroughly acquainted with its operations.

Resolved, That sympathy, encouragement and substantial aid, are due from every one who loves his country, to the *noble* women of our Soldier's Aid Societies, who, with great toil and sacrifice, are engaged in the glorious work of relieving the sufferings of our beloved brethren, the soldiers who have gone to fight for us, the battles of freedom and civil liberty.

Resolved, That we tender to the gentlemen and ladies from Philadelphia, who have addressed us this afternoon and evening, our sincere thanks for the valuable information which they have communicated to us, and the encouragement they have given us, which shall only stimulate us to greater efforts in this good work in the fu-

ture, and until a righteous peace shall be established in our beloved land.

The assembly then sang the L. M. Doxology and dispersed.

C. C. HALSEY,
T. NICHOLSON,
G. A. JESSUP,
} *Secretaries.*

OBJECTIONS.

Our friends sometimes write to ask how they shall answer certain objections that are made to the Sanitary Commission, by persons who claim to be entitled to credit in their respective neighborhoods; and while we invariably answer such communications promptly, we think a notice here, of two or three objections that have come to our knowledge within a day or two, may be well.

A friend sends us from Chautauqua county in New York, a note, with a slip from the *Fredonia Censor*, which contains the following statement:

In looking over the Censor *of the 24th ult. I see you advise the people of Chautauqua to pick, dry and send all the berries to our men down here, through the Sanitary Commission. This, I would six months ago have approved, and joined with you in recommending, but now, seeing how things go at the very headquarters of the whole establishment, I would, and will use every means in my power to keep it from them, especially the part of country where my own friends live. It is now a regular cheating place. Honesty and patriotism are known by their men here no more. An easy life with a plenty of money in their pockets, is thought much more of, than the poor soldiers who are suffering. This same Sanitary Commission was once a noble thing, and a great amount of good was derived from it, but it is now as bad, as it was then good.*

The only authority for these statements is a certain J. C. B. If J. C. B. will make his complaints over his own proper signature, and give us the evidence to prove the *cheating* of which he complains, and show how the *honesty and patriotism* of all the *men* at *headquarters* has vanished within he past six months, and tell who the men are, he will be doing a service to the cause. If, however, he makes these assertions without being frank enough to avow himself, the good people of his own county will not give credit to his accusations. Our friends need never concern themselves about charges or complaints against the Commission that are not substantiated by proper authority. True men who have the interest of the cause at heart, who love the soldier and desire to see his wants supplied, are never afraid to be seen and known, in any attempt to correct or remove evils, which they may honestly think stand in the way of the cause.

Another letter comes from Bradford county, Pa., complaining that a *chaplain* from the army had publicly opposed the Sanitary Commission in his county, and had discouraged the Ladies Aid Society from contributing any more to the soldiers through that channel. His complaint was, that the "*contributions of the people rarely reach the suffering soldier, but that the officers of the army who control these sanitary stores, appropriate them to their own use, and leave the private soldier to suffer in his destitution and want.*"

We assure the Society at Leraysville, in Bradford, that they may continue in their noble work without discouragement, if they will trust to their own good impulses, and their past experience.

When officers return from the army and say, that they—the officers—use the supplies that are given to them for the soldiers by the Commission, there need be no blame attached to the Commission. We are confident however, that the chaplain is in error about the supplies to soldiers not reaching them. In his own regiment it may have been the case, and there may be other regiments where officers are willing to misappropriate stores, but we believe from large observation and experience, that officers as a rule, do not so mis-apply what may be placed within their reach.

The Commission has its own agents, who

distribute to the men personally, when surgeons approve; and it would be absurd to suppose that all the vast stores which the people have sent to the army, could have been used by the officers, had every effort been made to induce them to do so. Our army is not composed of such men, as many persons would have us believe. The private soldiers are such as the world has never before seen, for valor, endurance, patience and confidence in the cause, and in their leaders.

Our army surgeons are men taken from our families and communities—men whom we have formerly entrusted with our own lives, and the lives of our kindred; they have been strictly examined before they entered the service, both as to professional attainment and moral character, and are as a class, valuable men.

The Generals and subordinate officers, are such as have won the esteem and confidence of the people, and we are satisfied that no unfounded complaints—be they made by whom they may, will shake the confidence of the people in our army officers, in our valiant men of the rank and file, or in the means that are being used by the Sanitary Commission to serve them.

The good women of the land will work on, and in answer to such accusations as we have noticed, they will furnish such facts as they may find in the present number of the *Bulletin*. Read the correspondence from the army, and you will learn how the supplies are distributed.

COUNCIL OF SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETIES.

NEW YORK, *October* 26, 1864.

DEAR SIR: Will you be kind enough to publish the enclosed Circular of Invitation in the BULLETIN of November 1. The invitation is extended to all who are interested in the care of the sick and wounded, and may, through the BULLETIN reach some persons who might not otherwise receive it.

Very respectfully yours,

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
Chairman Com. on Correspondence.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF,
10 and 11 Cooper Union, Third Avenue.

NEW YORK, *October* 25, 1864.

MADAM: A meeting of delegates from the Soldier's Aid Societies of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and parts of Massachusetts, Vermont and New Jersey, will be held in the Hall of the Cooper Union, on WEDNESDAY, THE 16TH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT, at 7½ o'clock, P.M. We hope that the Soldier's Aid Societies of Canada will be also represented.

Prof. HITCHCOCK, of this Association, will preside, and present our Semi-Annual Report. Dr. BELLOWS, recently returned from California, will narrate his experiences among the workers for the Soldiers there. Other gentlemen are expected to address the meeting.

This invitation is extended to the members of Soldier's Aid Societies, working not only through the Sanitary Commission but through every other agency, and to all persons interested in the welfare of our sick and wounded soldiers. We earnestly hope to have the pleasure of seeing you on this occasion, as well as the members of the Society you represent. Be kind enough to present this invitation to them as soon as you conveniently can, and also to give it a widely extended notice in your community. Please let us have an answer from you by November 10.

Delegates are requested to wear a badge of narrow blue ribbon, on the left shoulder. Associate Managers will wear a red badge, and the ladies of the Board a white one.

Associate Managers and Delegates are requested to meet the members of the Board in the Committee-room of the Cooper Union (entrance on 3d Avenue), at 6 o'clock on the afternoon of the day of meeting. They are requested to bring statistical reports of the entire work of their Societies from the beginning of the war. These reports will be entered on the records of the meeting, and upon the outside of each should be written the name of the Society, and the names of the delegates representing it. Written enquiries about any part of the work of the Sanitary Commission will be received at this time and transmitted to the speakers.

The ladies of the Woman's Central Association hope also to have the pleasure of receiving their friends, at their rooms, in the Cooper Union, on Wednesday and

Thursday, the 16th and 17th of November. The books and store-houses of the Association will then be open for examination, and any desired information given in regard to our work.

It is with great pleasure that we look forward to the prospect of meeting our fellow-workers—many of you the well-tried associates of three-and-a-half years—face to face. It will give a new impulse to our work, and we trust that when we separate it will be to go back to it refreshed and strengthened.

Very respectfully yours,
ELLEN COLLINS,
LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,
ANGELINA POST,
CAROLINE LANE,
CATHERINE NASH,
Committee of Invitation.

A PILLOW.

A dairy woman on a rented farm, with a dozen cows to milk, a little less than a dozen children to feed and clothe, and a house-full of work to do beside, and in a neighborhood among the cold hills, where the church and school, and Soldiers Aid Society, make up the whole of the outside life, cannot be expected to do what some some people would call *much* for soldiers, who are hundreds of miles away; but yet such women *do a great deal.* We know of one, who had two nice pillows, for a nice new baby. The geese had contributed the best of feathers, and the good mother had put them into sacks, and trimmed them neatly for her little nursling. One of the pillows was old, and the other was new—made new for the new little soldier, whose field was the nursery floor, and whose fortress was the cradle. The Aid Society met, and the dairy woman found time to meet with them, but she could not do much beside work, and believe and pray. One day however, she looked upon the little soldier in his little fortress, and said, "the *new pillow* shall go to some suffering soldier in the distant hospitals. Baby may keep the old one, but the new, the best, the softest, it shall go to the Union soldier."

WASHER-WOMAN.

She lived in a little home, with but few neighbors around her. Her chief income was derived from the washing she did for a well-to-do family near by; but she joined the Aid Society, for she could sew, as well as wash. She wanted to give something beside her labor and love, however, but what should she give? She gathered her little fruit crop,—cherries, currants and all, and dried them for the sick and wounded ones, who were defending her little home. She would not give a part only—but all. Every cherry and currant, that was spared from the drying, was packed away, and marked for the Sanitary Commission to send to soldiers. A friend expostulated, and begged her to keep a share for her winter store. "Oh! no, I do not need them, and the gift is very small!" Her all of little domestic luxuries—very small. Think of it, Girards and Astors, and all who have more than plenty.

AN ARAB CHIEF.

Yanni—a Christian Arab, makes an offering to the Sanitary Commission, from his Eastern home. Prepared orange flowers, are a delicacy in his land, for the sick and suffering. His new religion teaches him that sickness and wounds, and want, in other lands besides his own, claim the sympathy of a common brotherhood, and Yanni sends his contribution marked over his signature, for the U. S. Sanitary Commission. His message is, "You give good gifts to us, and we give good gifts to you."

HORSE-RADISH.

An interesting incident is related by a friend of Susquehanna county, Pa. A good woman who had but very little of this world's goods, determined that she must do something to make the soldier comfortable, and thus prove her interest in the cause of her country. She looked about her humble home, and saw but little—very little, that she could send to the front. But, thought

she—there's my horse-radish patch, and perhaps some of that may help to season the course food, and make the boys think of home. So she dug up her horse-radish, grated it finely, stowed it away in jars, until her little store measured *two gallons.* She trudged away with this over four miles of mountain road, and left it with the neighborhood Aid Society, to be sent away with the stores of the Sanitary Commission. It was not much in comparison with the great cargoes that are sent to the soldiers, but it was her own offering of what she had, out of *her little,* and will doubtless add a wholesome relish to the humble viands of the "boys," while the consciousness of having a part in this great work, will be the donor's *reward.*

VOICES FROM THE COUNTRY.

Little Falls, N. Y.—The work of the Commission progresses. A lively interest created by a recent gathering of the people.

Rome, N. Y.—An excellent Aid Society in active operation.

Herkimer Village, N. Y.—A Teacher's Institute for the county, listens to and considers the wants of the soldiers, and makes itself a channel of information in their behalf.

Cedarville, N. Y.—Society reorganized and in good tune for work.

West Winfield, N. Y.—Gives fine promise of good results for the Commission.

A correspondent from Western New York states in general terms, as follows: "New societies have been formed, and many who took no interest in Sanitary matters are aroused to exertion. I find the people willing to help, if they can only be assured that the supplies reach the front, and are distributed amongst the needy soldier boys. The ladies have made a great amount of blackberry cordial, and are now putting up pickles, and will save large quantities of dried fruit for the Commission."

Tamaqua, Pa.—The work goes on well. A flourishing society exists and is industrious.

Pottsville, Pa.—Is alive to the cause. It works industriously. Much more will be heard from there soon.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—The organization here is about taking a fresh start for the winter campaign. What they have done in the past will he duplicated hereafter.

Cape Island, N. J.—The society resolved to go to work with renewed zeal.

Cape May C. H., N. J.—Ditto.

Townsend Inlet, N. J.—A new society organized. Worthy and efficient Christian ladies have already commenced.

Green Creek, N. J.—A new society formed. Plans matured for engaging the whole neighborhood in the cause.

Goshen, N. J.—A new society formed. The people much interested and a good promise of good fruit.

Dennis, N. J.—The society stimulated and will do more work.

Sweedsboro', N. J.—A new impulse is given to the Society here, and the earnest people will be more earnest than ever.

THE RIGHT RING.

Extract from a letter of a late Chaplain in the Army of the Potomac to one of the Auxiliary Corps, who had invited him to enlist in the service of the Sanitary Commission.

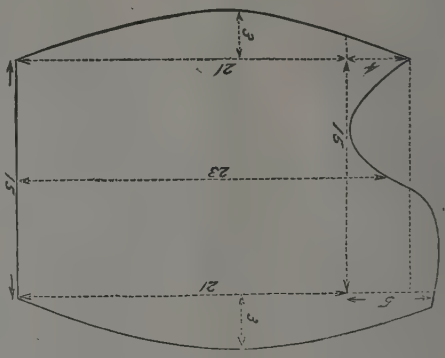
Though I parted reluctantly from the army and am home-sick to return, yet it seems without doubt best that I devote the coming winter to Hebrew and homilies. I am heartily sorry for it, for my heart wears the blue uniform, and is not easily retired from active service. If I live to see next summer, and the war goes on, I do not know what can keep me away from the field. I had an offer of a captiancy of cavalry a few days ago, that well nigh dragged me from the pulpit. There is no business fit for a young man who is fit to live in these days, outside the army lines. I hope, sir, that you will be able to accomplish all you aspire to in the way of making brave men strong for battle.

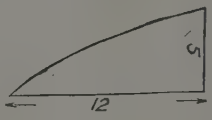
Wrappers for Hospitals Wanted.

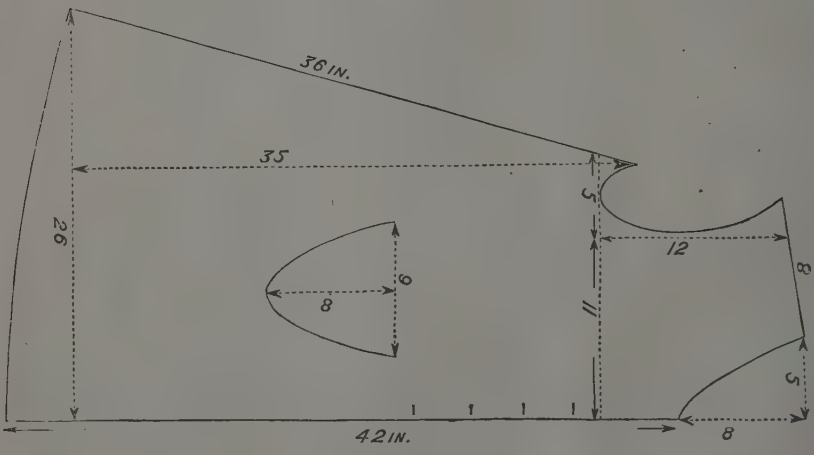
DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING WRAPPERS.

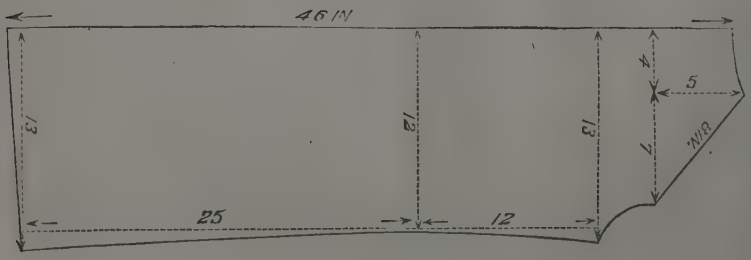
The circular side of the collar is to be sewed into the neck. The straight side turns over. In sewing in the sleeve the seam must be placed in the middle of the arm size *behind*, as per dot, in diagram. The pocket is to be felled on the inside. There are to be four buttons in the front. This wrapper may be made of any cotton or woolen material, doubled. It will take from 9 to 10 yards of any cloth, of calico width.

With a little ingenuity, old pieces may be made to go a great way, by piecing the lining, and making collar, and facings for the sleeves and fronts, of different stuff from the outside.









INDIVIDUAL RELIEF.

List of sick and wounded soldiers, waited upon in transit between Washington and New York, for the fortnight ending, October 15, 1864, by A. H. Trego, Courier, U. S. Sanitary Commission.

NEW YORK.

H. W., Co. A, 8th N. Y. Vols., Rockaway, wounded in both legs.
P. O., Co. A, 61st N. Y. Vols., New York, sick.
J. C., Co. H, 21st N. Y. Cav. Albany, wounded.
J. H. H., Co. C, 4th N. Y. Cav., Newark, wounded.
J. W., Co. L, 14th N. Y. H. A., W. Windsor, leg amputated.
M. J. H., Co. A, 121st N. Y. Vols., Albany, wounded.
S. H. C., Co. B, 146th N. Y. Vols., Farmington, sick.
6 N. Y. soldiers, Brooklyn, legs off.
6 officers of N. Y. and N. E. Regt's wounded at Richmond.
15 soldiers of N. Y., sick and wounded.
3 officers, N. Y. Regts., badly wounded.
Capt. S., Co. C, 12th N. Y. V., Ulster, badly wounded.

MAINE.

B. H. E., Co. K, 1st Me. Cav., Bath, fever.
S. M., Co. F, 32d Me. Vols., Portland, leg off.
B. W. P., Co. H, 9th Me. Vols., Dixmont, wounded.
V. H., Co. I, 29th Me. Vols., Augusta, wounded.
2 soldiers, Maine Regiments, Portland, bad wounds.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

J. T., Co. E, 11th N. H., Boston, wounded.
A. C. C., Co. A, 11th N. H., Derry, wounded.
C. H. S., Co. F, 5th N. H., Clairmount, wounded.
53 soldiers, 1st N. H. battery, time out, discharged.

MASSACHUSETTS.

J. N., Co. K, 22d Mass., Stutbridge, sick.
A. W. A., 5th Mass. Battery, New Bedford, sick.
21 soldiers, 5th Massachusetts Battery, Boston, discharged.
Lieut. J. N. M., Co. D, 35th Mass., Whaland, wounded badly.

CONNECTICUT.

3 Conn. soldiers, Hartford, wounded.
J. W., Co. I, 1st Conn. Cav., Woodstock, helpless, paralytic.

NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND.

3 officers, N. E. Regts., wounded.
15 soldiers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., wounded.
4 officers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., wounded.
17 soldiers, N. Y. & N. E. Regts., sick and wounded,
25 soldiers of New England Regiments, sick and wounded.
Total, 192.

SPECIAL RELIEF REPORT

BY J. B. ABBOTT,

For one week, ending Oct. 8, 1864.

SPECIAL RELIEF OFFICE.

Number of cases of discharged soldiers whose papers have been taken and acted upon,	23
Number of Bounty cases taken,	7
Number of applications for back pay by sick and disabled soldiers in Hospital,	16
Number of applications for ration money received,	5
Number of applications for back pay of prisoners of war,	20
Number of pension claims filed,	44
Number of claims for arrear of pay and bounty filed,	8
Number of claims for prize money filed,	1
Whole number of cases filed,	124
Whole number of cases adjusted,	77

Amount collected on papers of discharged soldiers,	$4,586 97
Amount collected on bounty cases,	1,750 00
Amount of back pay secured to soldiers in Hospital,	1,099 56
Amount of ration money collected,	14 25
Whole amount collected and secured,	$7,450 78

CASH ACCOUNT.

Amount on hand date of last report,	$216 20
Amount refunded,	20 65
Expenditures,	104 37
Cash on hand Oct. 8th,	132 48

HOMES AND LODGES.

Number of meals given to soldiers at Lodge No. 4,	2771
Number of meals given to clerks and messengers,	364
Number of meals given to soldiers at Alexandria Lodge,	384
Number of meals given to soldiers' friends,	160
Number of meals given to soldiers and soldiers' friends at the Home in Baltimore,	208
Whole number of meals given,	3887
Whole number of lodgings furnished at Lodge No. 4,	461
Whole number of lodgings furnished at Alexandria Lodge,	238
Whole number of lodgings furnished at the Home in Baltimore,	61
Total number of lodgings furnished,	770

The report of the Soldiers' Rest at Harrisburg, Pa., for the week has not yet reached me.

Report of the Sixth street Lodge shows that nine steamers have arrived during the week, with more or less sick and wounded soldiers. 398 were furnished with food and stimulants from the Lodge, on their arrival, before being removed to the hospitals.

A. H. Trego reports this week 146 sick and wounded soldiers waited upon, in transit between Washington and New York.

There has been a larger number of soldiers, who have suffered the loss of a leg or an arm, requiring assistance in adjusting their papers, or making their claims for pensions, this week than any previous week since the office was opened.

For the week ending October 15th, 1864.

Number of cases of discharged soldiers who have applied for aid in adjusting their papers and collecting their pay, received and acted upon,	38
Number of bounty cases taken,	11
Number of cases of back pay for soldiers in Hospitals entered in journal,	26
Number of cases filed for the pay of prisoners of war,	30
Number of pension claims filed,	64
Number of arrears of pay and bounty claims filed,	8
Number of prize money claims filed,	8
Whole number of claims entered,	185
Whole number of cases adjusted and allowed,	70
Amount collected on discharge papers,	$6,101 51
Amount of back pay secured,	1,092 73
Amount of bounty collected,	425 00
Amount collected for the families of soldiers who have become prisoners of war,	662 40
Amount of prize money collected,	3,636 41
Whole amount secured,	$11,918 05

The amount of work accomplished by the Homes and Lodges will not vary much from the result shown in last week's report.

CASH ACCOUNT.

Cash on hand October 8th,	$132 48
Cash received from Sanitary Commission,	$160 00
Expenditures,	$156 74
Cash on hand this date,	$135 74

The average number of letters received per day, 55

The number written per day will not vary much from the number received.

REPORTS OF LODGES AND CLAIM AGENCIES.

BALTIMORE.

A. E. Hastings, Superintendent of "Home for Invalid Soldiers," Baltimore, Md., reports as follows, for the week ending Oct. 9th, 1864.

Number of meals furnished,	208
" lodgings "	61
" soldiers entertained,	47
" " friends entertained,	22
Whole number entertained,	69
Medical attendance furnished,	2
Transportation at Government rates,	8
" San. Com. expense,	1

For the week ending Oct. 16, 1864.

Number of meals furnished,	271
" lodgings "	87
" soldiers entertained,	43
" " friends entertained,	25
" refugees entertained,	1
Whole number entertained,	69
Medical attendance furnished,	2
Transportation at Government rates,	10
" expense San. Com.,	6

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

S. G. Doolittle, Superintendent "Alexandria Lodge," reports the following for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of meals furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	383
" meals furnished friends of soldiers,	160
" lodgings furnished,	54
Whole number entertained,	234
" males,	224
" females,	10

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Number of meals furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	300
" meals furnished friends of soldiers,	78
" lodgings furnished friends of soldiers,	26
" lodgings furnished sick and wounded soldiers,	159
Number entertained,	167
" of males,	159
" of females,	8

WASHINGTON, D. C.

HOWARD MCPHERSON, Superintendent Lodge No. 6, Washington, D. C., (6th street wharf) reports during the week ending Oct. 8, 1864, having supplied tea, coffee, crackers, and milk punch to 404 sick and wounded soldiers.

During the week ending Oct. 15, 397 men were ministered to at this Lodge.

JAS. C. FREEMAN, Acting Superintendent Lodge No. 4, Washington, D. C., reports as follows for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of meals furnished to soldiers,	2,771
" " " " clerks and messengers,	364
Total number of meals furnished,	3,135
Nunber of lodgings furnished soldiers,	454
" " " clerks and messengers,	7
Total number of lodgings furnished,	461

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Number of meals furnished soldiers and sailors,	2450
" meals furnished clerks and messengers,	344
Total number of meals furnished,	2,794
Nunber of lodgings furnished soldiers and sailors,	363
" lodgings furnished clerks and messengers,	7
Total number of lodgings furnished,	370

BACK PAY AND BOUNTY.

W. K. NEAL, Superintendent Back Pay and Bounty Department, reports the following work for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Number of cases taken and recorded,	33
" " settled,	21
Amount collected on 21 cases,	$4,586 97
Number of letters written in full,	21
" " " part, (blanks)	2

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864. Mr. Read reports.

Number of cases recorded,	38
" " settled,	22
Amount collected,	$6,101 51

GEO. W. RANDLETTE, Superintendent "Bounty Department," Washington, D. C., reports as follows for the week ending Oct. 8, 1864.

Cases received and recorded,	7
" settled,	18
Amount collected,	$1,750 00
Drafts sent,	21
Amount (21 drafts),	$2,321 07
Letters written,	21
" forms used,	7

For the week ending Oct. 15, 1864.

Cases received and recorded,	11
" settled,	5
" papers returned,	1
Amount collected,	$425 00
Letters written,	20
Drafts sent,	22
Amount of drafts,	$2,110 77

PENSION AGENCY, WASHINGTON.

WM. P. BARRY, Supt. Pension Agency, Washington, D. C., reports for week ending October 8th, 1864:

Number of claims filed (pensions),	44
" " " " (arrears of pay),	8
" " " " (prize money),	1
Whole number of claims filed,	53
Number of claims completed and allowed by Commissioner of Pensions,	12
Letters written in full	42
" Blanks filled	120
Whole number letters sent,	162
" " " Received,	71

For the week ending October 15*th*, 1864:

Number claims filed (pensions),	68
" " " arrears of pay,	4
Number of claims (prize money),	8
Total number of claims,	80
Claims for pensions allowed,	5
" " prize money,	10
Total claims allowed,	15
Amount of prize money collected,	$3,636 41
Letters written in full,	68
" (blanks filled),	59
Whole number sent,	127
" " received,	148

J. B. BROWN, Supt. "Back Pay and Prisoners of War Claim Department," reports for week ending October 8th, 1864:

Number cases taken back pay and bounty,	16
" " adjusted,	23
Am't. represented by adjusted cases,	$1,099 56
Letters written in full,	43
" " (blanks filled),	136
Whole number,	179
Referred,	66

COMMUTATION OF RATIONS.

Number of cases taken,	5
" " " adjusted,	3
Amount collected on adjusted cases,	$14 25

PRISONERS OF WAR BACK PAY.

Cases taken,	20
Total collected for week	$1,113 81

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OF THE

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq , New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surgeon-Gen'l U. S. A
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, jr., Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penna.
C. J. Stillé, Philadelphia, Penna.
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

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Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously,

with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

CENTRAL DEPOTS OF COLLECTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 11 Cooper Union, New York.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, State House, New Haven, Conn.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

DEPOTS OF DISTRIBUTION.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 244 F Street, Washington, D. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 46 Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Harper's Ferry, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Newberne, N. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Beaufort, S. C.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, New Orleans, La

Temporary Depots for distribution are established from time to time as necessities of the service require.

DEPARTMENT OF THE WEST.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, N. Y.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 Fourth Street, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, O.

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

SPECIAL RELIEF DEPARTMENT.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

"The Home," No. 374 N. Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

Relief Rooms, 1307 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

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William F. Bascom, Pension Agent, Washington, D. C.

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SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

SIR:—The Board of Medical Officers assembled in the City of Philadelphia, for the purpose of examining the different models submitted to them for an Artificial Arm, having reported * * * * * * * * * IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD, WHEN A SOLDIER MAY DESIRE TO PURCHASE "THE MORE ELEGANT AND EXPENSIVE ARM OF PALMER," FIFTY DOLLARS WILL BE ALLOWED TOWARDS PAYMENT FOR THT SAME.

By order of the Acting Surgeon-General.
C. H. CRANE, Surgeon U.S.A.

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Sept. 20, 1864.

SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, by order of the Surgeon-General,
W. C. SPENCER, Assistant Surgeon U.S.A.

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From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD

UPON RISKS ON WHICH THE PREMIUM IS PAID IN LIKE CURRENCY.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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